

Aboriginal Peoples



Aboriginal Peoples

- In this section we will use aboriginal people as a single culture origin
- The aboriginal peoples of Canada are actually many distinct peoples who differ greatly in respect to:

Where they live



What is language?

Language is more than just communication.
It is the primary method by which we do things together.

Language is the accumulation of shared meaning = of common ground.





Culture



GOVERNMENT

IF YOU THINK THE PROBLEMS WE CREATE ARE BAD,
JUST WAIT UNTIL YOU SEE OUR SOLUTIONS.

Aboriginal Peoples

- A big factor as to why Aboriginal Peoples are different is because of where they and their ancestors have lived
- The map of Canada is divided into six broad culture areas





Contact with Europeans

- In the early years where there were small numbers of Europeans, Native peoples were in the dominant position
- In the early encounters, European government and Native peoples made **Treaties** to accomplish an establishment of peace and friendship as military allies

Signing of the Treaty



Contact with Europeans

Treaty

- An official agreement between the Federal government and First Nations whereby the Aboriginal Peoples give up their land rights except for the reserves and accept money and other kinds of government assistance

Treaties

- Made sense for both parties

	First Nations	Europeans
Land	Had the land and were prepared to share it	Wanted to settle on the land
Wanted	Peace, realized Europeans had great military power Other things (money, goods) that Europeans Offered	Peace, realized that the First Nations would always be a threat without a treaty
Experience with Treaties	Had considerable experience using treaties to settle disputes with neighbours	Had considerable experience using treaties to settle disputes with neighbours

Treaties

The Royal Proclamation Act (1763)

- Two important principles were to be applied to treaties when they were negotiated

1. Land ownership rights of the First Nations must be respected



Treaties

2. If a First Nation did choose to give up land, it should receive a fair payment for it.
- These rules were not always followed
 - Native people were often given a very small one time payment, sometimes suits of clothing and later blankets

Treaties

- Over the years that followed , the relationship between Natives and Europeans changed drastically
- As more and more Europeans arrived, the British government wanted to have more control over the land used by the natives



Treaties

- In exchange, they offered Native people payment, an area of land called a **reserve** and sometimes goods



Treaties

- While Native People gave up almost half of Canada's land area through treaties, many of the treaties were unfair
- There were drastic differences between what the Natives thought they were signing for and what they were actually signing for



Treaties

- In many cases, treaty promises of payments, reserve land and rights to hunting and fishing were broken

